



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release
Friday, August 6, 2004

MONROE COUNTY GIRLS' SPORTS FESTIVAL **SATURDAY, AUGUST 7TH**

The 7th annual Monroe County Girls' Sports Festival will be held tomorrow, Saturday, August 7, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the ESL Sports Centre at Monroe Community College. The festival is sponsored by the Monroe County Sports Development Corporation.

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** will give welcoming remarks at the opening ceremonies at 9:45 a.m. Nearly 400 girls will be participating in the event.

"The Monroe County Girls' Sports Festival is a truly unique event that provides young girls with the opportunity to learn new sports and improve their athletic skills in a positive and encouraging environment," said Brooks.

"Participation in sports teaches important lessons in the value of teamwork, sportsmanship, hard work, commitment and perseverance, and can help girls gain greater confidence and self-esteem."

"Monroe County is pleased to host this outstanding event and we thank the sponsors and volunteers for their efforts in making it another great success," Brooks added.

The annual festival is a one-day event for girls between the ages of 8 and 14. Participants are able to gain hands-on knowledge of sports in a non-competitive setting. No experience is necessary.

The event is open to girls who live in or outside of Monroe County. It is also open to girls with physical disabilities – several of the sports are adapted.

-- MORE --

Brooks/Girls' Sports Festival – Page 2

Girls will participate in five out of the 16 sports clinics that are included in this year's festival. All clinics are hosted by local volunteer organizations. Sports include:

Basketball – *Western NY Lady Lakers*

Cheerleading – *Premier Cheer*

Fencing – *Rochester Fencing Centre*

Field Hockey – *Penfield Field Hockey Team*

Fishing – *Lake Ontario Sportfishing Promotion Council*

Golf – *Local Golf Pros*

Gymnastics – *Gymnastics Training Center of Rochester*

Ice Skating – *ESL Skating School*

Karate - *Martial Arts America*

Lacrosse – *Local Professionals*

Soccer – *YMCA of Greater Rochester*

Speed Skating – *Rochester Speed Skating Club*

Tennis – *Mid-Town Athletic Club*

Ultimate Frisbee – *Greater Rochester Area Disc Association*

Volleyball – *VolleyFX Volleyball*

Wheelchair Obstacle – *Rochester Rookies*

Sponsors for the 2004 festival include Monroe County, Senator Jim Alesi, Nietopski Sports, Okuma Fishing, and Monroe Wheelchair.

The Monroe County Sports Development Corporation (MCSDC) was established in 1997. It is a not-for-profit corporation that works to attract amateur events, sports clinics, and conventions to increase the economic vitality of the community. Working with the Greater Rochester Visitors Association (GRVA), MCSDC acts as a clearinghouse for sporting activities by assisting sports organizations and promoters in making Monroe County a premier host for sporting events. MCSDC also works with local sports clubs to develop sports opportunities for youth within the community.

###

*Media Inquiries, contact:
Department of Communications at 428-2380*